

**Minutes of the Northview High School PTSA  
Executive Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 18, 2007**

Martha Bernstein, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Martha then distributed the meeting agenda and the budgets entitled "NHS PTSA 07/08 Original 1" and NHS PTSA 06/07 Final 1:2."

**Members in attendance were:**

Martha Bernstein, Sharyl Dawes, Gail Dowling, Marti Elliott (Faculty Representative), Bonnie Futterman (Faculty Representative), Jennifer Getzewich, Felicia Gialenios, Freda Hardage, Karyn Parker-Lisk, Linda McCain, Donna McCarthy, Kim McNaron, Judy Marcopulos, Courtney Miller (Student Council Treasurer), Ruth Petrillo, Julie Pitman, Kathy Potts (Co-Chair Career Center), Deb Powell, Sandi Rose, Molly Ruttle, Nancy Starks, Meaghan Thomas (Student Council Vice-President), Susanne Warren, and Mr. Zervakos.

Martha asked for a motion to approve the Executive Board Meeting minutes held on August 21, 2007. Copies were distributed for those who did not receive the minutes prior to this meeting. The motion was made by Ruth Petrillo and Kim McNaron seconded the motion and it was approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Freda Hardage stated that the books were officially closed on August 27, 2007 with nothing being processed for one week until the new budget started on September 1, 2007. There is a change in the Income Carryover of \$9,377.60. This number should actually be \$9,288.00 which is a difference of \$88.68 which will be brought forward next time. Freda stated that many tried to use the money as much as possible up front because of the extra money. Freda stated to Donna McCarthy that because of this, the last check ended up going on this year because of the timeframe – and this was split in the Hospitality budget. Freda stated that Kim McNaron had a 100% participation in Senior Treats but Kim stated that the funds to date are from 33.8% of the Senior Parents. Freda stated she made two (2) more deposits today for Senior Treats which is now a total of \$3,670 which is \$1,000 over the budget. Membership has done well and the number on the budget does not reflect the amount we owe between \$7,000 and \$8,000 to Ga. PTA, therefore, when that number is backed out, membership will have reached their budgeted amount for income.

Freda asked for any other business regarding the budget. Susanne stated that when we did the budget, we forgot to put a carryover amount of approximately \$1,000 in the PTSA Admin. Miscellaneous Account so when we get the budget amended in December, this amount needs to be added but at the present time, we need to assume that the miscellaneous number is going to be \$1,177.60 as opposed to the \$2,100.00.

Martha stated that next year we should take a look at a different strategy of closing our books down for a two (2) week period and this will give the old and new budget a grace period. Martha complimented Freda's hard work on the old and new budget.

### **Teacher Representative's Report**

Martha asked Marti Elliott for an update. Marti stated that tomorrow is early release day for the students. The Social Studies and Language Arts Departments are going to have lunch together and they are going to compare strategies, types of activities, curriculum ideas that they can share and this will be a good time for the teachers to get to know each other and hopefully to have additional lunches and mixers in a relaxed environment for them to share with each other.

Next is the Georgia Professional Standards Training which will involve the "checklist" which is something that Kay Burke has done. Every Department Chair is presenting them to their department so that it will be curriculum oriented to that particular subject matter.

Marti stated that tomorrow, Thursday, will be busy due to the "Emergency Drill" which involves the total evacuation of the school which consists of 2,700 students and staff. After the drill, "The Bolt" will be presented.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding "The Bolt" which was explained as being a student production which highlights certain things such as welcome week, homecoming, etc. Martha stated that "The Bolt" is on the website.

Marti stated that she is working on the Governor's Honors Program in which Social Studies will have 14 students at this point attending the Governor's Honor's for Social Studies and she hopes to have 3 or 4 students attend the Social Studies Program during the summer of 2008 which is held in Valdosta, Georgia.

Bonnie Futterman stated that she is on the Strategic Committee for the school and stated that if the PTSA is in need of student volunteers – to please make her aware of this and she will work with us.

### **Principal's Report**

Mr. Zervakos was not present at the time but Martha stated that on September 11, 2007, Dr. Ann Hancock, the Secretary's regional representative of the U.S. Dept. of Education visited Northview. Her visit was prompted by a visit to Augusta for a Chemistry competition last summer where she presented several awards and was a keynote speaker. Several awards were given to Northview students which sparked her interest in visiting Northview High School. Martha and Susanne had the opportunity to tour the school with Dr. Hancock. Dr. Hancock spent several hours interacting with the students. Her first stop was to Mr. Sol Aboulafia's classroom where he teaches Organic Chemistry. She visited several other classrooms at Northview. Martha stated that this might be on the Ga. Dept. of Education website and/or in the local "*The Johns Creek Herald*."

### **School Services**

Gail Dowling introduced Kathy Potts (Co-Chairperson of the Career Center with Janet Fish). Kathy presented an overview of the reorganization of the Career Center this year. Kathy distributed a Northview Career Center Status handout to everyone present at the meeting which highlighted the mission, accomplishments and projects presently being worked on in the Career Center. The Career Center has one part-time employee, Gail Polizzi and 40 volunteer parents. Kathy stated that Gail is very hands-on with the students regarding college applications, essay reviews, etc.

Kathy also stated that Northpoint Mall was having a "Probe Fair" tomorrow evening with 175 colleges represented to talk to prospective students.

Kathy also stated that the Fairfax County School website in Virginia has the best information for prospective college students regarding federal money available and scholarships.

Kathy stated that she is working on focus groups where we track where our graduates attend college in the hopes that we are servicing all the students.

Gail Dowling continued with her report. The Media Center held their volunteer meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup> and had an overwhelming response for the Front Office Volunteers, the Career and Media Centers have a full volunteer schedule at this time. The new 11-1 shift for the front office is being fine tuned to work with the volunteers and may not work but Gail will keep us informed.

Gail stated that Parent-to-Parent is doing awesome. The program is being facilitated at River Trail Middle School and there are approximately 25 to 30 parents in attendance in which half the parents are from Northview and the other half are from River Trail. The interesting note that Gail made was that there is a strong international mix of parents wanting to learn about drugs, alcohol abuse, etc. in the United States. Kathleen Sable and Cathy Marion will be co-facilitating the next 3 events for Parent-to-Parent which the next two are on January 17<sup>th</sup> and February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Jennifer Getzewich (Co-VP of School Services) reported on Campus Beautification which will be held on October 6, 2007. Gail was contacted by Danny Lee Walden (employee of Bank of America; recent graduate of UGA; interested in community service, does not have a child at Northview). Ron Menze will contact Danny Lee Walden to discuss Campus Beautification.

Mr. Zervakos (who was present at this time) stated that Ron Menze (Chairperson of Campus Beautification) is actually the administrator of Campus Beautification which includes volunteers hours, water, first aid, and the students receiving their service hours for their clubs. Mr. Z. stated that Tom Arnold with John Deere takes care of ordering the plants, overseeing the delivery of the plants the day before, and spray painting where the plants are to be planted, and then on Saturday the Saturday School students help Tom place the plants where they are to be planted so that when the volunteers arrive, they can start digging and not have to deal with the organizing of the Campus Beautification Day.

Gail asked Mr. Z. if it is acceptable for Danny Lee Walden to participate in Campus Beautification. Mr. Z explained that as long as he understands that he will be helping Ron with the administration part of Campus Beautification and not the actual planting.

Mr. Z. stated that the Fall Campus Beautification Day is more of a maintenance day rather than planting. Many plants from the Spring Hands-on suffered from the drought during the summer and we lost one boxwood and several other items which will be replaced by John Deere free of charge.

### **Principal's Report (continued)**

Mr. Z. mentioned the visit of Dr. Hancock and that she was did not want to leave and she was especially fascinated with feeding 1,500 students at one time. She interacted with the students at lunch.

Mr. Z. discussed the PSAT that will be held on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. The day will start with the seniors taking a picture at 8:30 a.m., followed by breakfast, the showing of the film "Happy Gilmore" and then lunch. By this time, the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be through with the test.

Martha stated that this is a great week for the seniors and that the Friday after the PSAT they will have their second Senior Treat Day which is pizza.

### **Communications**

Molly Ruttle reported that October 16, 2007 is the deadline for the newsletter. The website is being updated by the new website Chairperson – Veena Pujari. Molly is meeting with the Committee Chair (Kim Renner) of Publicity tomorrow.

Sandi Rose is the Email Communications Chairperson. Sandi stated that she needs approval before sending the Email; therefore, do not send her something that needs an immediate communication. Monday is the deadline for submission. Molly distributed the NHS Communications contact sheet.

Sharyl Dawes (Chairperson of Legislation) reported that the Ga. PTA Advocacy Conference of 2007 is being held on October 28, 2007 at the State Capitol from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Students are invited this year. Sharyl contacted a few Social Studies teachers but did not receive a response.

Susanne stated that J. Tom Morgan (ex District Attorney of Dekalb County) will be a speaker at this conference. He authored a book that discussed the rights for kids.

Sharyl asked Mr. Z. about transporting students in her vehicle. Mr. Z. stated that this is permitted with permission from their parents.

Susanne stated that this is an excused absence for students and that the PTSA will pay for expenses that Sharyl incurs to attend the conference.

### **Hospitality**

Judy Marcopulos stated that this year's first Newcomer's Breakfast for new students and 11 students and a few parents were in attendance. The invitees that did not attend this month will be invited again next month. Every month Judy receives a list of new students to contact for the breakfast.

Judy is presently working in conjunction with "Unite Us", there is a community effort being held on October 6, 2007. This would include bags being put together to start school; baked goods; appreciation for what is being done for the students; and provide support. There will be a Newcomer's Breakfast held every month during the school year.

Donna McCarthy stated that the next event is the December luncheon for the staff. She is presently working on monthly events for the staff. She would like to add a luncheon in February if the funds are available. Unite is assisting in this effort.

Martha discussed this organization and Kim McNaron explained that "Unite Us" is a community of several churches (such as Perimeter Church). Martha stated that they are happy to be involved as a community service project. They are not seeking recognition from a religious standpoint. Martha stated that we need to welcome them as well as monitor the activities. She also stated that they will meet with them.

Mr. Z. expressed that the Unite Us volunteer base must work through the existing base of the PTSA volunteers.

Judy stated that she will be highly involved with the coordination efforts of this group.

### **Membership**

Felicia stated that the Academic Enrichment Fund through today is \$715. The Porche's contributed \$200 and they also donated \$175 to the seniors. Felicia gave a large deposit to Freda this week. There are 2,559 members to date. We need to reach a goal of 2,713 to reach Platinum Level. We are short by 125 members. As of today, Vivian Elliott gave the numbers to Felicia that the Georgia PTSA will use and they are 2,680 for students and 158 for teachers which is a total of 2,838 minus the members of 2,713 which the difference of 125 and 23 teachers. Felicia is working on a list of students who have not joined the PTSA and she also plans to be in the lunchroom next week in order to get students to join.

Sandi Rose stated that she sent out an Email regarding PTSA Membership that was needed to reach Platinum Level.

Regarding the school directory, Felicia stated that to date, \$1,375 has been sold for ads and there are more to be recorded. Felicia's husband owns the printing company that will be printing the directory at a significant lower price than other printing companies. The present delay is that some students need to be removed from the directory that the parent requested their information not be listed when they signed the Handbook Form for their child.

Martha stated that they are checking the numbers to make sure that an accurate number of directories are ordered so there is no major surplus which is a waste of PTSA money.

Martha encouraged everyone present to encourage their friends with businesses to purchase an ad for the directory.

Felicia stated that we need to set a deadline for submission of the directory – the date discussed was September 27<sup>th</sup>. Felicia also stated that it was suggested that future companies that print the directory should sign a form stating they will not sell the directory for solicitation or any other reason.

Susanne stated that she had received different numbers from Dr. Macris for certified teachers. Mr. Z. clarified the teacher number. Felicia will call the Georgia PTA to verify the definition of membership.

The teacher luncheon that will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> will be another opportunity for teachers to join the PTSA.

Martha and Susanne complimented Felicia for the work on Membership and the Directory which was a major undertaking.

### **Student Enrichment**

Ruth Petrillo reported that Pat Boegel (Chairperson of Cultural Arts) has contacted the departments and asked for requests.

Ruth stated that Becky Beaver (Co-Chairperson of Reflections) the packets are in the Media Center; announcements have been made; all teachers have been Emailed; website information has been sent to the right person; and that Eloise (Co-Chair of Reflections) has contacted Molly to arrange for the judges and a reminder Email will be sent out for the deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup>. The new theme is “I can make a difference by.”

Ruth reported that Andrea Lutz (Chairperson of Mini-Grants) has a meeting setup for the beginning of October.

Ruth reported that Mary Thatcher (Chairperson of Health & Safety) has setup September 27<sup>th</sup> as the day for the school Blood Drive. Ruth also stated that Mary has many ideas that the school may be interested in order to educate the students on health issues.

Ruth mentioned Awards Night which will be discussed at a later date since it is months away.

Ruth also mentioned that adjustments should probably be made for Honors Night due to the low attendance. Mr. Z. agreed that we need to come up with an idea for this program to be more successful.

Mr. Z. stated that VIP Night has 100% participation and there will be no changes to the program. This program is very successful and attendees have trouble leaving the celebration.

### **Student Services**

Deb Powell stated that October 4<sup>th</sup> will be the freshmen night and October 11<sup>th</sup> will be sophomore night for grade activities. Deb asked Mr. Z. if posters need to be approved. Mr. Z. stated that he trusts the parents to create the posters and stated he would send the art work of a Titan to Deb to put on the posters. Deb has also contacted the concession volunteers to coordinate student services volunteers to work the concessions for the grade activity nights.

The JV game falls on the same night of Screen on the Green. Mr. Z. stated that everyone will have to leave the stadium after the game and then have to clear the stadium and then sophomores will be let in the stadium for the Screen on the Green. Linda was concerned about the budget with more sophomores showing up for the event because of the next day being a Student Holiday.

Kim McNaron stated that Jackie Kidder (Chairperson of Drive Smart Program) has already met with administration regarding Drive Smart.

Kim reported that Becky Beaver (Chairperson of Homecoming Queen Elections) has volunteers in place for this event.

Kim stated that Tammy Robinson (Chairperson of Homecoming Coat Check) has volunteers in place for this event.

Kim stated that Chris Corrigan (Chairperson of PSAT Testing) is working on getting things done for this area.

Kim stated that Senior Treats is at 33.8 % of participation of Senior Parents. Kim stated she had budgeted \$7.75 per student and she is presently at \$8.33 per student which is a comfortable number to deal with in providing treats such as pizza for the seniors.

Kim stated that the Project Graduation Meeting is being held on Monday, September 24 at 7 p.m. in the Media Center. Kim clarified with Gail Dowling that we do not need to make a deposit for Jillian's until January 2008 – it is reserved for Project Graduation.

Sandi Rose mentioned that the gentleman that sold the Poinsettias to the school has retired. Julie Meinert is currently looking for growers for the Poinsettias fund raiser.

### **Student Council**

Meaghan Thomas and Courtney Miller discussed Homecoming. The DJ, decorations, plans for cleanup, courtyard and cafeteria decorations have been take care of for homecoming. The theme is “Drop it like it’s hot” – a tropical / tiki theme.

Courtney stated that they would like community involvement for the Homecoming Parade held on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. They are offering free parking (starting at 3 or 4 p.m.) and encouraging tailgating. A DJ is planned for the tailgate party. Deb Powell suggested a tailgate contest to encourage participation before the Parade.

Meaghan commented that trash bags are being distributed to students after the home football games for clean-up due to the debris that is left by students after the games.

Mr. Z. stated that the students need to be in the Parking Lot by 5 p.m. to avoid paying and cannot park on the first few rows that are reserved for Booster Members.

Kim McNaron mentioned that approximately 10 students went downtown to serve the homeless last week – served food and brought hygiene products to distribute. The students were giving back to the community.

Martha stated that Parent-to-Parent; Kim's group going to feed the homeless; the Student Council distributing garbage bags after the games; etc. are significant things that should be showcased in the *Titan View* every month.

### **Old Business**

Susanne stated there was a discrepancy in the budget for the carryover for Project Graduation. There is a \$2,000 carryover that goes into the new Budget with the \$23,000 we have in the Budget which brings it to \$25,000. At the last meeting, the budget showed \$25,000 and a \$2,000 carryover which brought it to \$27,000 which is incorrect. This correction is an amendment to the minutes for August 21, 2007.

### **New Business**

Susanne stated that Martha sent out an Email for North Fulton Council Members for the PTSA. The four people that are available are Sandi, Molly, Martha, and Susanne.

Elections for an LSAC Representative for the PTA are presently going on in the front office and will close on Thursday of this week.

The next Executive Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Starks  
Recording Secretary